# EMCrit 176 – Updated EMCrit Rapid Sequence Intubation Checklist

*Scott Weingart, MD FCCM*

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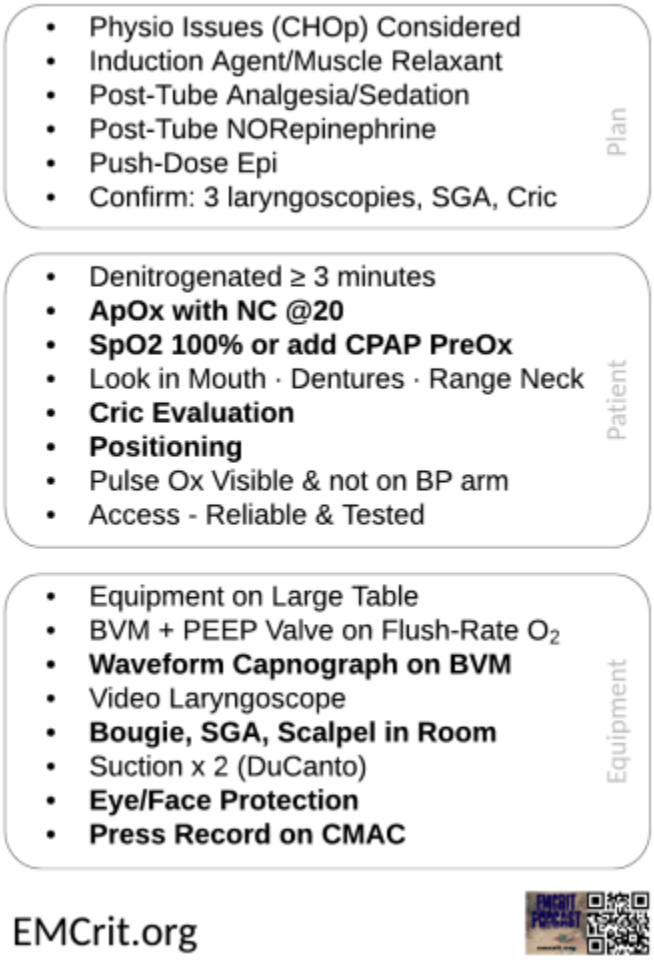
Three years ago (holy crap!), I put out the first version of the EMCrit RSI Checklist in this Podcast (92). Vahe Ender (@calldaburd) inspired me to reduce it to a business card/ID card sized version. I also simplified, clarified, and improved every aspect of the checklist. So here is the 2.0 version. The original is still great, it may just take a few seconds longer to use the old one. This is a no bullshit, less than 60 second version that has been field-tested 100's of times.

The EMCrit RSI Checklist v 2.5 (Updated 2026-02-24)

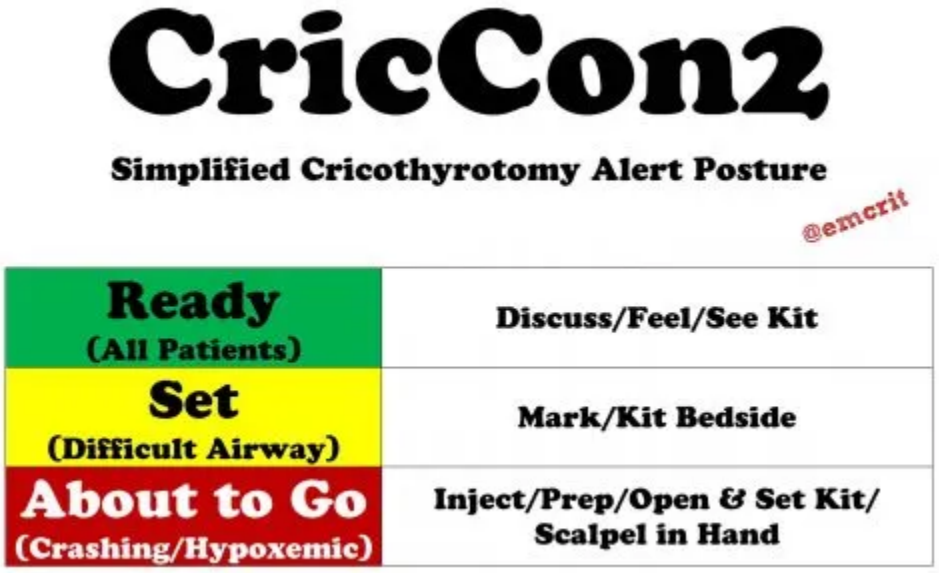



Printable Version of EMCrit RSI Checklist v2.5

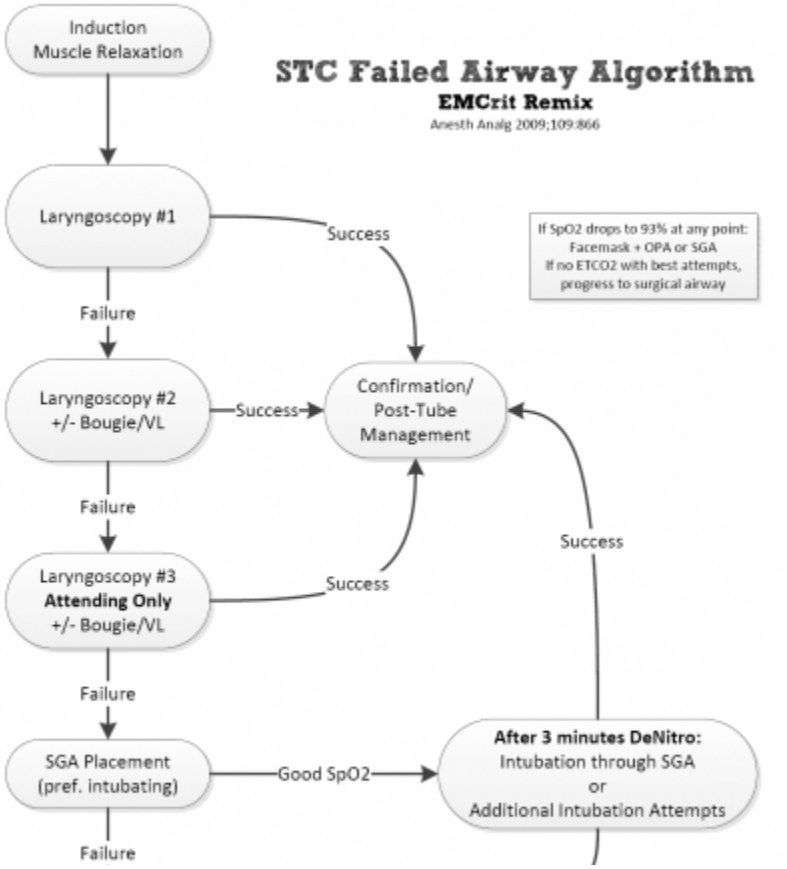
Update

~~In the next iteration of this card, NORepi will be called to the bedside at the same time as sedation and analgesia for the post-intubation~~

CricCon2

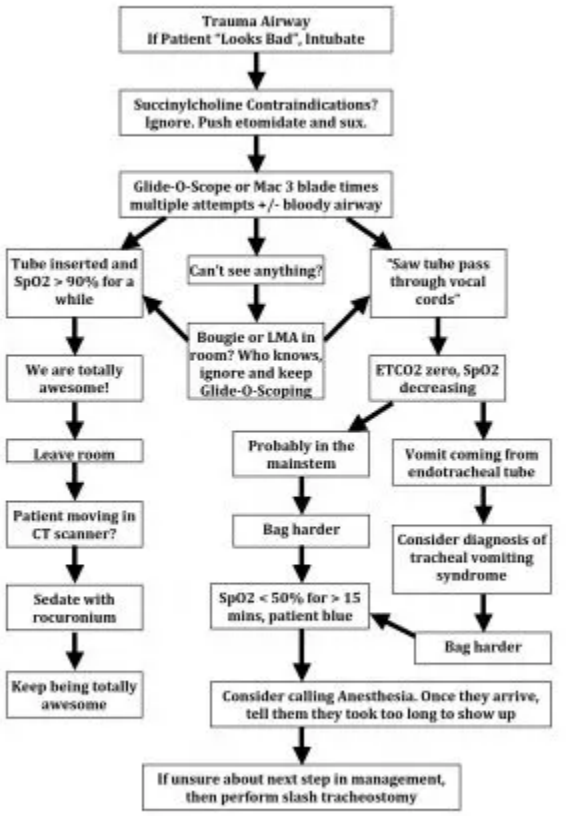



EMCrit Remix of the STC Failed Airway Algorithm



[Printable Version of the STC Failed Airway Algo 2.0]

Here is the Failed Airway Algo I see many centers use in lieu of the STC Algo


Trauma Airway
If Patient "Looks Bad", Intubate
Succinylcholine Contraindications? Ignore. Push etomidate and sux.
Glide-O-Scope or Mac 3 blade times multiple attempts +/- bloody airway
Tube inserted and SpO2 > 90% for a while
Can't see anything?
"Saw tube pass through vocal cords"
Bougie or LMA in room? Who knows, ignore and keep Glide-O-Scoping
We are totally awesome!
ETCO2 zero, SpO2 decreasing
Leave room
Probably in the mainstem
Vomit coming from endotracheal tube
Patient moving in CT scanner?
Bag harder
Consider diagnosis of tracheal vomiting syndrome
Sedate with rocuronium
SpO2 < 50% for > 15 mins, patient blue
Bag harder
Keep being totally awesome
Consider calling Anesthesia. Once they arrive, tell them they took too long to show up
If unsure about next step in management, then perform slash tracheostomy

**Attribution:** Doktor Schnabel from the GomerBlog

Syringe Labels

[RACC Syringe Labels as of 2015-10-21 (Right Click and Choose Save-as)]

Airway Bag (Sydney HEMS DumpKit)

Go to the Resus.cc site to see our version

Want to hear an actual use of the checklist with nurse calling and doc responding?

I'll be putting it up as a wee this week; sorry : (

Some Literature on Checklists for Crit Care Airway

Resuscitationists Airway Checklists

Checklist Design

Additional Stuff

Article on IVC to predict hemo decompensation after intubation

Evidence for Intubation Checklists (Ann Emerg Med. 2016 Mar;67(3):389-95)

Here is the checklist sheet and debrief form we will actually be using in the RACC

Airway Debrief 20160508

## Additional New Information

## More on EMCrit

Shock Trauma Center (STC) Failed Airway Algorithm(Opens in a new browser tab)

Podcast 103 – Avoiding Resuscitation Medication Errors – Part II(Opens in a new browser tab)

Podcast 92 – EMCrit Intubation Checklist(Opens in a new browser tab)

COMM CHECK: On Checklists(Opens in a new browser tab)

EMCrit 300  Airway Continuous Quality Improvement and the Resus Airway Bundle

## Additional Resources

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Author

Recent Posts

Editor-in-Chief, at EMCrit.org

An ED Intensivist from NY.
Professor
Nassau University Medical Center
No conflicts of interest (coi).

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Financial Disclosures:

The course director, Dr. Scott D. Weingart MD FCCM, reports no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies. This episode's speaker(s) report no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies unless listed above.

CME Review

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